

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### KROEGER WINS FOOT LOCKER HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. LINCOLN DAVIS**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, it is not everyday a Member of Congress gets the opportunity to proclaim they have a national champion attending school in their district. I rise today to congratulate Kathy Kroeger, a student at Independence High School in Thompson Station, Tennessee, for winning the 2006 Foot Locker High School Cross Country National Championship.

"The Beast," as she is commonly called for her consistent domination over her cross-country opponents, is a two-time defending Class AAA State champion and holds multiple State records.

Kathy recorded a time of 17:29, several seconds ahead of her closest competitor during the National Championship in San Diego. In 2005, Kathy came in a very respectable 16th place.

Winning a national championship is not an easy feat in any sport. You must be committed to constantly improving yourself, have a great support system around you, and have the determination and drive to compete. Kathy has all of the above factors, which lead her to winning the championship.

We look for many good things to come from Kathy in the future; whether on the course, in school, or out in the world, I wish her all the best.

### SEMPER FIDELIS, A TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL JASON L. DUNHAM, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

**HON. JOHN R. KUHL, JR.**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, it is with honor and pleasure that I rise to recognize Corporal Jason L. Dunham, United States Marine Corps. Corporal Dunham will posthumously receive our Nation's highest award for valor on January 11, 2007 from our 43rd President, George W. Bush.

Corporal Dunham grew up in Scio, New York. He was known for his prowess in baseball, basketball, and soccer at Scio Central School. He was also well-known throughout his entire community, not just for his good-natured pranks, but for being a young man of enthusiastic yet humble spirit, someone who genuinely cared for others and who could always be counted on if someone was in need. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in July 2000, because the Marines were known to have the toughest training, but also the strongest brotherhood. He also felt a personal challenge to complete basic training and to do it well.

Following his first duty assignment with Marine Corps Security Forces in Kings Bay, Georgia, Corporal Dunham was assigned to Fourth Platoon, Kilo Company, Third Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 7, First Marine Division. Having quickly proven himself as a capable and conscientious leader, Corporal Dunham was assigned as a Squad Leader and entrusted with the training, welfare, and lives of nine American Sons. He soon earned a reputation for his unwavering commitment to his fellow Marines. He had a caring, respectful, and humane style of leadership and believed above all in leadership by example.

On 14 April 2004, while conducting a reconnaissance mission in the town of Karabilah in Al Anbar province, Corporal Dunham and his men heard rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire erupt two kilometers to the west. Their Battalion Commander's patrol had been ambushed while enroute to visit Lima Company at Camp Husaybah, right on the Syrian border. Realizing that his unit was in a position to assist, Corporal Dunham ordered the vehicles of his Combined Anti-Armor Team to link up with his dismounted squad and advance toward the engagement to provide reinforcement. Upon reaching the site of the ambush, they were quickly barraged with enemy fire. Corporal Dunham ordered the vehicles dismounted and led one of his fireteams into the village to neutralize the ambush. After having moved several blocks south into the village, they discovered seven Iraqi vehicles in a column attempting to depart to the east. Corporal Dunham ordered his Marines to block their movement and check the vehicles for insurgents. As he approached the second vehicle in the column, an insurgent leaped out and attacked Corporal Dunham. In the ensuing hand-to-hand struggle, Corporal Dunham wrestled the Iraqi insurgent to the ground and immediately noticed that the insurgent was holding a live grenade. Corporal Dunham alerted his fellow Marines, and aware of the imminent danger but without hesitation, he removed his helmet and covered the grenade, absorbing the brunt of the explosion and shielding his fellow Marines from the blast in a selfless act of bravery that most certainly saved the lives of two of his Marines.

By his undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of certain death, Corporal Dunham gallantly gave his life for his country, thereby reflecting great credit upon himself and upholding the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. Corporal Jason L. Dunham epitomizes the selfless devotion to duty that our young men and women have displayed time and time again in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa, and numerous other places around the world. Our Nation is blessed to have a military full of Corporal Dunhams who are serving with great distinction. My heart goes out to his family, the townspeople of Scio, NY, and the Marines, for they have lost one of America's finest.

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JANE FAGERSTROM

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to remember the life of a proud Chautauqua County leader. Jane Fagerstrom, born April 1, 1927, to Floyd and Bertha Alden Nelson, passed away on January 6, 2006, at the age of 79. She left behind a legacy for all Chautauqua County residents to be proud of.

A compassionate and dynamic woman, Jane Fagerstrom was a strong leader who had a real desire to help the working people of Chautauqua County. She served her community for over four decades and was a pioneer in the Chautauqua County legislature, serving as the first chairperson between 2000 and 2002.

Jane began her career in 1963 as a secretary for Joe Gerace, Sr., who was a lawyer at the time and also served as supervisor for the town of Busti. When Gerace became the first county executive in 1975, Mrs. Fagerstrom stayed with him and played an integral role in helping run the county's executive branch.

As the former director of Chautauqua's Comprehensive Employment Training Administration, and through her efforts to support the Manufacturing Technology Institute, Jane will be remembered for her efforts to help those without work.

She was also a past president of the Joint Neighborhood Project, a founding member of the Resource Center board of directors, she served on the Research and Strategic Planning Council, the planning committee of the United Way, was commissioner of the Civil Service in Jamestown, was on the advisory committee of Habitat for Humanity, the Interfaith Volunteer Program, Salvation Army Advisory Board, Board of Trustees of Jamestown Community College and the SALT organization.

Mrs. Fagerstrom was preceded in death by her husband of over 50 years, John W. Fagerstrom, whom she wed September 21, 1946, and who passed away on November 25, 1997. Surviving her are her three sons, John W. (Ann) Fagerstrom of Jamestown, Jeffrey L. Fagerstrom of Billings, Montana and David A. (Deb) Fagerstrom of Cherry Creek; two granddaughters, Nikki (Kevin) Pierce of Jamestown and Ashley Fagerstrom of Billings; two great-grandchildren, Kal and Addie Pierce; her sister, Dorothy Olson of Jamestown; and several nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to remember and celebrate the life of Jane Fagerstrom and remember her contributions to her community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her spirit here today.

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